

## Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 RSC-01

ACDA-19 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 SAM-01

USIE-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 /171 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/IAI:WTCLUVERIUS:DF

APPROVED BY NEA - ALATHERTON, JR.

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

INFO USINT CAIRO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 027832

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SOCI, XF

SUBJECT: ISRAELI EMBASSY INFORMED OF US POSITION ON  
EGYPTIAN RESOLUTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

1. DEP ASSTSEC ATHERTON CALLED ISRAELI MINISTER SHALEV LATE  
FEB. 11 TO INFORM HIM OF INSTRUCTIONS DEPT HAS GIVEN TO  
USUN RE POSITION TO BE TAKEN ON EGYPTIAN RESOLUTION ON  
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION. ATHERTON SAID THAT WE HAD MADE  
A MAJOR EFFORT IN NEW YORK TO TURN OFF EGYPTIAN POLEMICS  
IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION BUT OBVIOUSLY WE DID NOT  
SUCCEED. IT IS A BAD RESOLUTION, SIMILAR TO THOSE USG HAS  
VOTED AGAINST IN THE PAST. OUR PARTICULAR AND VERY  
DIFFICULT PROBLEM THIS TIME AROUND, HOWEVER, IS OUR PRESENT  
INTERMEDIARY ROLE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. OUR PROBLEM IN  
DEVELOPING A POSITION WAS COMPOUNDED BY UNHELPFUL STATEMENTS  
BY ISRAELIS OVER THE WEEKEND RE THE GOLAN HEIGHTS.

2. ATHERTON SAID WE HAD INSTRUCTED OUR DELEGATION TO TRY  
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FOR A-PARAGRAPH BY PARAGRAPH VOTE, WHICH WE BELIEVE WE

CAN GET, AND TO VOTE NO ON THREE OF THE MOST OBJECTIONABLE PARAGRAPHS. ON THE RESOLUTION AS A WHOLE OUR DELEGATION HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO ABSTAIN. ATHERTON SAID HE WANTED SHALEV TO KNOW THIS RESOLUTION AT THIS TIME PRESENTED US WITH A DIFFICULT PROBLEM WHICH WE HAVE SOLVED IN THIS FASHION AFTER VERY CAREFUL STUDY HERE, WITH PARTICULAR CONCERN FOR OUR PRESENT ROLE IN THE AREA.

3. SHALEV SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN WORRIED BY THE US POSITION AND THAT HE FAILS TO UNDERSTAND WHAT PURPOSE WE SERVE BY ABSTAINING ON THE WHOLE RESOLUTION AND VOTING NO ON THREE OF ITS PARAGRAPHS. ATHERTON REPLIED THAT THIS POSITION WAS A DIFFICULT DECISION FOR US BUT THAT WE WANT TO MAKE OUR POSITION VERY CLEAR AND FEEL THAT OUR DECISION IS THE BEST WAY TO DO THIS. SHALEV INTERJECTED THAT HE FEELS THAT IT WOULD BE BEST TO MAKE THE U.S. POSITION CLEAR BY VOTING NO AS THE U.S. HAD DONE ON PAST, SIMILAR RESOLUTIONS. SHALEV SAID THAT THE U.S. VOTE WOULD BE TAKEN VERY BADLY IN ISRAEL AND BE SEEN AS A CHANGE FROM PAST EXPRESSIONS OF U.S. POSITIONS ON THESE ISSUES.

4. ATHERTON REITERATED THAT IT WAS INDEED AN UNFORTUNATE RESOLUTION AT AN UNFORTUNATE TIME AND THAT WE FELT THAT WE HAD TO DEAL WITH IT IN A FASHION TO PRESERVE OUR INTERMEDIARY ROLE. HE SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT ISRAELIS WOULD BE DISAPPOINTED BUT THAT HE HOPED SHALEV WOULD MAKE IT CLEAR IN HIS REPORTING THE REASONS FOR THE U.S. POSITION EVEN THOUGH ATHERTON UNDERSTOOD ISRAEL WOULD NOT AGREE WITH IT.

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**From:** STATE  
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